

Wegrzyn, John

From: Kline, David (DEQ) <KLINED@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 2:55 PM
To: Krawczyk, Keith (DEQ); Devantier, Daria W. (DEQ)
Cc: Wegrzyn, John
Subject: FW: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories

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FYI.

From: Jim Lang [mailto:langsmailbox@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 3:50 PM
To: Hahnenberg James
Cc: Kline, David (DEQ)
Subject: Shiawassee Superfund Site, PCB advisories

James Hahnenberg
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA Region 5

Sir:

I'm interested in water quality, especially in Michigan. One particular source of concern is the South Branch of the Shiawassee River, EPA ID# MID980794473, contaminated with PCB.

State of Michigan fish advisories warn the public about eating fish from the South Branch, and I've read that rabbits and deer hunted in the floodplain may be contaminated, too.

However, there has been no mention that I'm aware of concerning the risk to human health from eating wild ducks killed in the Shiawassee watershed.

In past years, I've shot wood ducks in the bottom land of the East Branch (and eaten them), so I know there is a sizable population in the area. I've also seen mallard and teal in these waters and think it likely that other species are present as well.

Wikipedia's section on polychlorinated biphenyls says in part:

"Like many lipiphilic toxins, PCBs biomagnify up the food chain. For instance, ducks can accumulate PCBs from eating fish and other aquatic life from contaminated rivers, and these can cause harm to human health or even death when eaten."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polychlorinated_biphenyl

Can you tell me whether duck hunters are warned of the danger and, if so, how?

Jim Lang
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cc: MDEQ Superfund Program